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Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan

Financial performance report of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report contains the financial performance report of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000. The General Assembly, by its resolution 53/19 B of 8 June 1999, appropriated an amount of $18,708,926 gross ($17,475,926 net) to cover the cost of UNMOT, inclusive of an amount of $930,639 for the support account for peacekeeping operations and an amount of $182,487 for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy.

Expenditures for the period totalled $13,954,200 gross ($13,110,500 net), resulting in an unencumbered balance of $4,754,700 gross ($4,365,400 net).

Following the holding of the first multi-party and pluralistic parliamentary election in Tajikistan on 27 February 2000, the Security Council, in a presidential statement of 12 May 2000 (S/PRST/2000/17), supported the Secretary-General's stated intention, as contained in his report to the Security Council of 5 May 2000 (S/2000/387), to withdraw UNMOT when its mandate expired on 15 May 2000.

In view of this development, in a letter dated 16 June 2000 to the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Controller informed the Committee that amounts totalling $16,370,309 gross ($15,291,434 net) had been assessed up to 15 May 2000 when UNMOT's mandate expired. Against this revised assessed figure, it was projected that expenditures and obligations for the period 1 July 1999 to 15 May 2000, inclusive of the Mission's prorated share of the cost of the Support account for peacekeeping operations and the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, would amount to some $11.5 million gross ($10.9 million net). The Controller, noting that the projected costs associated with the closing and liquidation of the Mission, estimated at $3.4 million gross ($3.3 million net), could

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therefore be met within the revised assessed figure, requested the concurrence of the Advisory Committee to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding $3.4 million gross ($2.3 million net) for these purposes. The Advisory Committee concurred in the request in a letter dated 16 June 2000 from its Chairman to the Secretary-General.

The unencumbered balance resulted mainly from lower mission subsistence allowance payments for military observers, civilian police monitors and international staff, lower travel costs for military observers, lower international staff salaries and common staff costs, the non-procurement of vehicles and communications equipment and lower commercial communication charges, offset by higher expenditures under spare parts, repairs and maintenance for vehicles, communications equipment and other equipment respectively as well as higher commercial freight charges.

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I. Introduction

1. The Security Council, by its resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994, established the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT). The Mission was established for a period of up to six months, subject to the proviso that it would continue beyond 6 February 1995 only if the parties agreed to extend the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, of 17 September 1994 (S/1994/1102, annex I), and that they remained committed to an effective ceasefire, national reconciliation and the promotion of democracy.

2. In its resolution 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997, the Security Council authorized the Secretary-General to expand the size of UNMOT. The Council decided that the mandate of UNMOT should be to use its best efforts to promote peace and national reconciliation and to assist in the implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan (A/52/219-S/1997/510, annex I). The Council also noted with appreciation the agreement of the parties to form a joint security unit with the task of providing security, including armed escorts for UNMOT personnel and transports, mainly in the central part of the country, and called upon them to establish it without delay.

3. The Security Council has since extended the mandate of the Mission in subsequent resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 1274 (1999) of 12 November 1999, in which the mandate was extended until 15 May 2000.

4. The budget for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 was set out in the report of the Secretary-General of 1 February 1999 (A/53/816) and amounted to $19,109,400 gross ($17,739,400 net). The cost estimates provided for 50 military observers and 12 civilian police monitors supported by 218 civilian staff (69 international, 143 local staff and 6 United Nations Volunteers) and were based on the assumption that five team sites in addition to the headquarters in Dushanbe would be operational during the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000. On the basis of the Secretary-General's plan for expansion of UNMOT, authorized by the Security Council in its resolution 1138 (1997), the number of civilian police officers was increased from 2 to 12.

5. The General Assembly, by its resolution 53/19 B of 8 June 1999, appropriated an amount of $18,708,926 gross ($17,475,926 net) for the Mission for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000, inclusive of an amount of $930,639 for the support account for peacekeeping operations and an amount of $182,487 for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy.

6. Following the holding on 27 February 2000 of the first multi-party and pluralistic parliamentary election in Tajikistan, the Security Council, in a presidential statement of 12 May 2000 (S/PRST/2000/17), supported the Secretary-General's stated intention, as contained in his report to the Security Council of 5 May 2000 (S/2000/387), to withdraw UNMOT when its mandate expired on 15 May 2000.

7. In view of this development, in a letter dated 16 June 2000 to the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Controller informed the Committee that amounts totalling $16,370,309 gross ($15,291,434 net) had been assessed up to 15 May 2000 when the mandate of the Mission expired.

Against this revised assessed figure, it was projected that expenditures and obligations for the period 1 July 1999 to 15 May 2000, inclusive of the Mission's prorated share of the cost of the Support account for peacekeeping operations and the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, would amount to some $11.5 million gross ($10.9 million net). The Controller, noting that the projected costs associated with the closing and liquidation of the Mission, estimated at $3.4 million gross ($3.3 million net), could therefore be met within the revised assessed figure, requested the concurrence of the Advisory Committee to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding $3.4 million gross ($3.3 million net) for these purposes. The Advisory Committee concurred in the request in a letter dated 16 June 2000 from its Chairman to the Secretary-General.

II. Implementation of the budget

8. Information on the operations of UNMOT during the reporting period is contained in the reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council of 12 August 1999 (S/1999/872), 4 November 1999 (S/1999/1127), 14 March 2000 (S/2000/214) and 5 May 2000 (S/2000/387).

9. UNMOT had to function in a highly volatile environment. The Mission has endured two hostage incidents and serious acts of harassment and has lost six members to hostile action. Consequently, the Mission's freedom of movement and its ability to carry out its mandated functions were severely limited for long periods of time. A further deterioration in the security situation during the electoral campaign, as well as a number of serious violent incidents, which occurred in February 2000, contributed to an atmosphere of insecurity and had an adverse impact on the implementation of the approved budget for the period.

10. With the holding of the first multi-party and pluralistic parliamentary elections in Tajikistan on 27 February 2000, the transition period envisaged in the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan (S/1997/510, annex I) drew to a close, as did the process that UNMOT was set up to support. At that time, the Security Council noted with satisfaction that the United Nations had played an important role in the success of the process and supported the intention of the Secretary-General to withdraw UNMOT when its mandate expired on 15 May 2000 (see S/PRST/2000/9).

11. Following the expiration of the UNMOT mandate on 15 May 2000, there was an intensive liquidation period from 16 May to 30 June 2000 during which the packing, shipping and further physical and administrative liquidation of the Mission was carried out.

III. Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000

12. Table 1 below indicates the appropriation of $18,708,926 gross ($17,475,926 net) for the maintenance of UNMOT for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000. Expenditures amounted to $13,954,200 gross ($13,110,500 net), inclusive of $2,662,600 in unliquidated obligations for the period ending 30 June 2000. The

resulting unencumbered balance of $4,754,700 gross ($4,365,400 net) represents approximately 25.4 per cent of the amount appropriated.

13. Annex I to the present report contains the financial performance information for the reporting period by budget line. Column 1 of annex I reflects the apportionment of the resources provided to UNMOT during the period under review, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 53/19 B. The expenditures recorded for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 are shown in column 3 by budget line item. Variances between the apportionment of resources by budget line item and the actual expenditures are shown in column 4.

14. Supplementary information on significant variances in the financial performance report is presented in annex II. The planned and actual deployment of military observers and civilian personnel for the reporting period is contained in annex III. Annex IV contains a chart showing the apportionment and expenditure for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000.

Table 1
Apportionment and expenditure
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category of expenditure	*Apportionment*	*Expenditure*	*Variance*
Military personnel	1 743.3	994.4	748.9
Civilian personnel	9 178.8	5 995.9	3 182.9
Operational requirements	5 298.6	4 920.7	377.9
Other programmes	142.1	86.4	55.7
United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi	182.5	182.5	-
Support account for peacekeeping operations	930.6	930.6	-
Staff assessment	1 233.0	843.7	389.3
Gross requirements	**18 708.9**	**13 954.2**	**4 754.7**
Income from staff assessment	(1 233.0)	(843.7)	(389.3)
Net requirements	**17 475.9**	**13 110.5**	**4 365.4**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	-	-	-
Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)	-	-	-
Total resources	**18 708.9**	**13 954.2**	**4 754.7**

Table 2
Authorized staffing, incumbency and vacancy rates for military and civilian personnel for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000

Personnel category	*Authorized strength*	*Actual strength (average)*	*Vacancy rate (percentage)*
Military observers	50	26	48.0
Military contingents	-	-	-
Civilian police	12	2	83.3
International staff	69	42	39.1
National officers	-	-	-
Local staff	143	109	23.8
United Nations Volunteers	6	3	50.0

IV. Action to be taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session

15. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan are:**

(a) **To reduce the appropriation approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 53/19 B of 8 June 1999 to $16,370,309 gross ($15,291,434 net);**

(b) **A decision on the treatment of the unencumbered balance of $4,754,700 gross ($4,365,400 net) for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000.**

Annex I

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000: summary statement

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category of expenditure	*(1)* *Apportionment* [a]	*(2)* *Non-recurrent expenditures*	*(3)* *Total expenditures (inclusive of non-recurrent expenditures)*	*(4) = (1 - 3)* *Variance*
I. Military personnel				
1. Military observers	1 676.5	-	894.1	782.4
2. Military contingents	-	-	-	-
3. Other requirements pertaining to military personnel				
(a) Contingent-owned equipment	-	-	-	-
(b) Self-sustainment	30.0	-	5.8	24.2
(c) Death and disability compensation	36.8	-	94.5	(57.7)
Subtotal, line 3	66.8	-	100.3	(33.5)
Total, category I	**1 743.3**	**-**	**994.4**	**748.9**
II. Civilian personnel				
1. Civilian police	413.1	-	49.7	363.4
2. International and local staff	8 535.3	-	5 876.0	2 659.3
3. United Nations Volunteers	230.4	-	70.2	160.2
4. Government-provided personnel	-	-	-	-
5. Civilian electoral observers	-	-	-	-
Total, category II	**9 178.8**	**-**	**5 995.9**	**3 182.9**
III. Operational requirements				
1. Premises/accommodations	131.8	-	70.1	61.7
2. Infrastructure repairs	-	-	-	-
3. Transport operations	632.1	708.2	796.4	(164.3)
4. Air operations	2 295.2	-	1 596.8	698.4
5. Naval operations	-	-	-	-
6. Communications	1 721.8	700.8	1 017.5	704.3
7. Other equipment	199.6	159.6	694.0	(494.4)
8. Supplies and services	268.1	169.8	451.0	(182.9)
9. Air and surface freight				
(a) Transport of contingent-owned equipment	-	-	-	-
(b) Commercial freight and cartage	50.0	-	294.9	(244.9)
Subtotal, line 9	50.0	-	294.9	(244.9)
Total, category III	**5 298.6**	**1 738.4**	**4 920.7**	**377.9**

Category of expenditure	*(1)* *Apportionment* [a]	*(2)* *Non-recurrent expenditures*	*(3)* *Total expenditures (inclusive of non-recurrent expenditures)*	*(4) = (1 - 3)* *Variance*
IV. Other programmes				
1. Election-related supplies and services	-	-	-	-
2. Public information programmes	142.1	0.2	86.4	55.7
3. Training programmes	-	-	-	-
4. Mine-clearing programmes	-	-	-	-
5. Assistance for disarmament and demobilization	-	-	-	-
Total, category IV	**142.1**	**0.2**	**86.4**	**55.7**
V. United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi	**182.5**	**-**	**182.5**	**-**
VI. Support account for peacekeeping operations	**930.6**	**-**	**930.6**	**-**
VII. Staff assessment	**1 233.0**	**-**	**843.7**	**389.3**
Gross requirements, categories I-VII	18 708.9	1 738.6	13 954.2	4 754.7
VIII. Income from staff assessment	**(1 233.0)**	**-**	**(843.7)**	**(389.3)**
Net requirements, categories I-VIII	17 475.9	1 738.6	13 110.5	4 365.4
IX. Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
X. Voluntary contributions in kind (non-budgeted)	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Total	**18 708.9**	**1 738.6**	**13 954.2**	**4 754.7**

[a] Based on appropriation provided by General Assembly resolution 53/19B.

Annex II

Supplementary information on significant variances

Military personnel

Apportionment: $1,743,300; expenditure: $994,400; variance: $748,900

1. The unutilized balance of $748,900 under this heading was largely due to the fact that military observers whose tour of duty ended were not replaced during the period, in view of the expected expiration of the UNMOT mandate on 15 May 2000. As a result, the Mission experienced an average vacancy rate of 52 per cent for military observers, resulting in substantial savings under mission subsistence allowance, travel costs for military observers and for level 1 medical service budgeted under self-sustainment. These savings were offset by higher actual requirements under death and disability compensation owing to the loss of two military observers as a result of hostile action ($57,700).

Civilian personnel

Apportionment: $9,178,800; expenditure: $5,995,900; variance: $3,182,900

2. Savings of $363,400 under civilian police were mainly attributable to the fact that only 2 out of the 12 civilian police monitors authorized were deployed in the Mission area during the period, which resulted in significant underexpenditure under mission subsistence allowance, travel costs and clothing allowance.

3. As a result of the gradual transfer of UNMOT international personnel to other peacekeeping operations, which started in March 2000, the Mission experienced an average vacancy rate of 39.1 per cent for international staff during the period. This resulted in savings under international staff salaries ($1,567,800), common staff costs ($627,000) and mission subsistence allowance ($555,300). The expenditures recorded included an amount of $154,300 to cover the salary costs for 13 work months for international staff members (one P-4, one P-3 and two General Service (Other level)) associated with the liquidation of UNMOT at Headquarters.

4. The average vacancy rate of 28.3 per cent for local staff and 50 per cent for United Nations Volunteers resulted in the savings reported under these headings.

5. Additional requirements of $53,800 under other travel were largely attributable to the higher than budgeted travel requirements of the Chief of Mission for visits to neighbouring countries and of UNMOT personnel in connection with the closure of UNMOT field offices in Kurgan-Tyube, Khorog and Khujand and a temporary electoral office in Garn.

Operational requirements

Apportionment: $5,298,600; expenditure: $4,920,700; variance: $377,900

6. The unutilized balance of $377,900 largely resulted from savings under premises/accommodation ($61,700), air operations ($698,400) and communications ($704,300), offset by additional requirements under transport operations ($164,300),

other equipment ($494,400), supplies and services ($182,700) and air and surface freight ($244,900).

Premises/accommodation

Apportionment: $131,800; expenditure: $70,100; variance: $61,700

7. The savings under this heading were the result of lower than budgeted rental costs, the reduction from five to four field offices and their subsequent closure ($29,900) and to concomitant lower requirements under maintenance supplies, maintenance services and utilities ($31,800).

Transport operations

Apportionment: $632,100; expenditure: $796,400; variance: ($164,300)

8. The overexpenditure under this heading was largely attributable to non-procurement of 11 replacement vehicles budgeted for the period in view of the expiration of the UNMOT mandate on 15 May 2000 ($196,300), offset by additional requirements of $446,900 under spare parts, repairs and maintenance related to the cost of refurbishing 54 vehicles shipped to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi for subsequent use by other peacekeeping operations. The decrease in the Mission's vehicle fleet from 124 to an average of 89 vehicles during the period and the subsequent shipment of 54 of them to the Logistics Base also resulted in lower than budgeted consumption of petrol, oil and lubricants, resulting in savings of $89,500 under this heading. These savings were also offset by additional requirements of $11,200 under vehicle insurance.

Air operations

Apportionment: $2,295,200; expenditure: $1,596,800; variance: $698,400

9. The savings under this heading are mainly attributable to reduced flying hours for the helicopter and the fixed-wing aircraft as a result of the downsizing and the subsequent closing of the Mission, which resulted in lower consumption of aviation fuel, landing fee costs incurred and ground handling charges than budgeted. These savings were offset by additional requirement under aircrew subsistence allowance as a result of higher costs for accommodation and food outside of the country for the AN-26 aircraft crew for flights, mainly to Almaty (Kazakhstan) and Tashkent (Uzbekistan), in connection with the transportation of equipment items and staff members leaving the Mission area.

Communications

Apportionment: $1,721,800; expenditure: $1,017,500; variance: $704,300

10. In view of the anticipated closure of the Mission, procurement of communications equipment was kept to a minimum and limited to only the most immediate requirements, which included necessary upgrade of the Mission's communications system in connection with the electoral process. This resulted in savings of $497,700.

11. Similarly, workshop and test equipment were not procured during the period, resulting in the unutilized balance of $34,500 under this heading.

12. However, an additional amount of $313,400 was required under spare parts and supplies for the refurbishment of communications equipment that was shipped to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi upon the closure of the Mission for later use by other peacekeeping operations.

13. Savings of $485,500 under commercial communications were realized owing in part to the establishment of four team sites instead of the five budgeted, and in part to the increased use of high-frequency (HF) communications between the team sites in lieu of the more expensive INMARSAT and CAPSAT mobile communications systems.

Other equipment

Apportionment: $199,600; expenditure: $694,000; variance: ($494,400)

14. The additional amount under this heading was largely attributable to unbudgeted expenses associated with refurbishment of a variety of pieces of equipment (such as generators, air conditioners, photocopiers, printers, fax machines and containers) that were subsequently shipped to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi upon the closure of UNMOT ($534,400). Other additional requirements during the period included the procurement of additional office furniture, computers and accommodation equipment for the field offices in connection with the monitoring of the parliamentary and presidential elections. These costs were partially offset by savings due to the non-utilization of funds under field defence equipment, petrol tanks and water and septic tanks.

Supplies and services

Apportionment: $268,100; expenditure: $451,000; variance: ($182,900)

15. The additional requirements under this heading are mainly attributable to higher requirements under contractual services due to the need to hire local personnel on a short-term basis for the refurbishment and packing of equipment for shipment to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi in connection with the closure of the Mission. Additional costs were also incurred under miscellaneous other services ($55,400), relating to bank charges and the procurement of packing materials and pallets used in conjunction with above-mentioned shipments. These additional requirements were offset by savings under miscellaneous supplies such as office supplies, sanitation and cleaning materials, electrical supplies, subscriptions and operational maps as a result of the downsizing and subsequent closing of the Mission.

Air and surface freight

Apportionment: $50,000; expenditure: $294,900; variance: ($244,900)

16. The higher than budgeted expenditure reported under this heading was due to the shipping of 670 different pieces of refurbished equipment and other usable assets

shipped to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi upon closure of UNMOT for use by other peacekeeping operations.

Other programmes

Apportionment: $142,100; expenditure: $86,400; variance: $55,700

17. While provision had been made for the printing of UNMOT newsletters, brochures, posters and other publications as well as the production of television and radio slots for broadcasting on local stations in connection with the peace process in Tajikistan, the services of the local radio and television stations were no longer required, resulting to savings of $46,200 under contractual services. In addition, the non-procurement of photographic equipment such as a movie camera, support kit, editing materials and supplies resulted to the savings recorded under the headings of equipment and materials and supplies respectively.

Staff assessment

Apportionment: $1,233,000; expenditure: $843,700; variance: $389,300

18. The unutilized balance was mainly due to the average vacancy rate of 39.1 per cent in respect of international staff.

Income from staff assessment

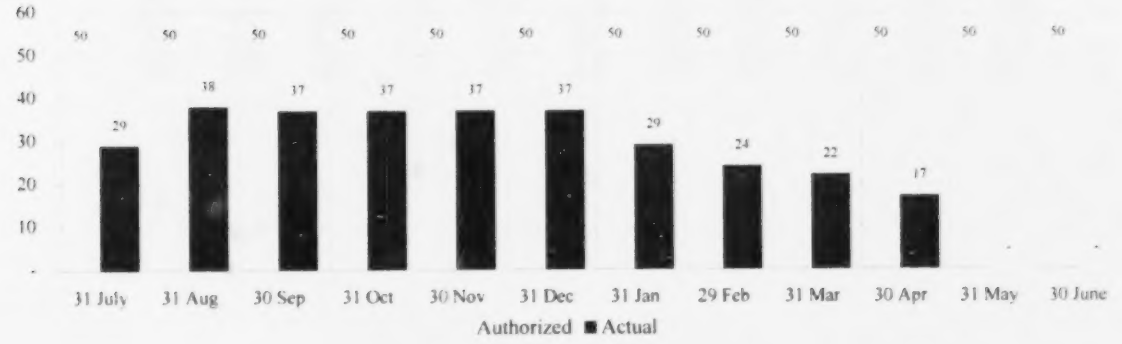
Apportionment ($1,233,000); expenditure: ($843,700); variance: ($389,300)

19. This amount is derived from staff assessment (see para. 18 above).

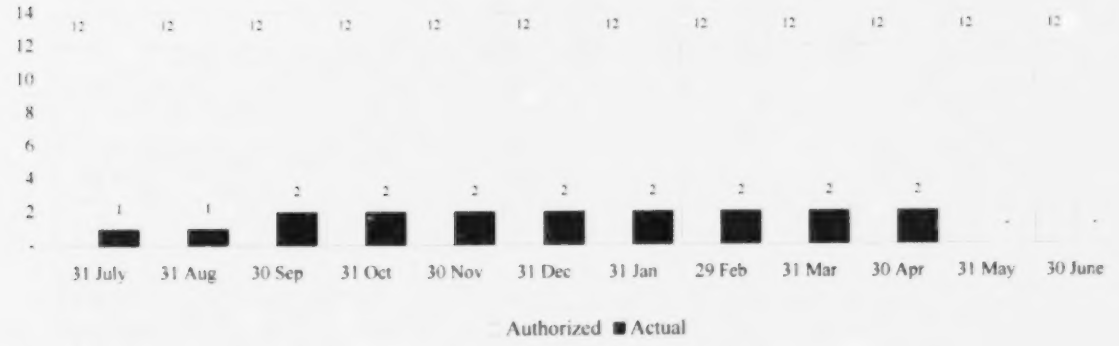
Annex III

Planned and actual deployment of civilian and military personnel for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000

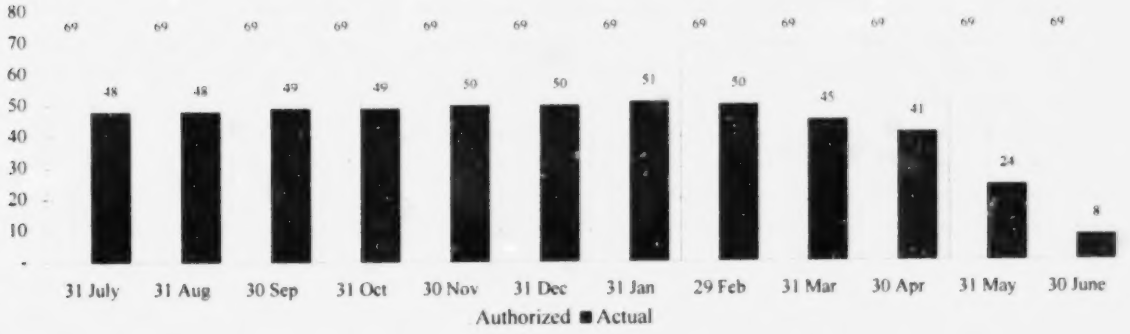
1. Military observers



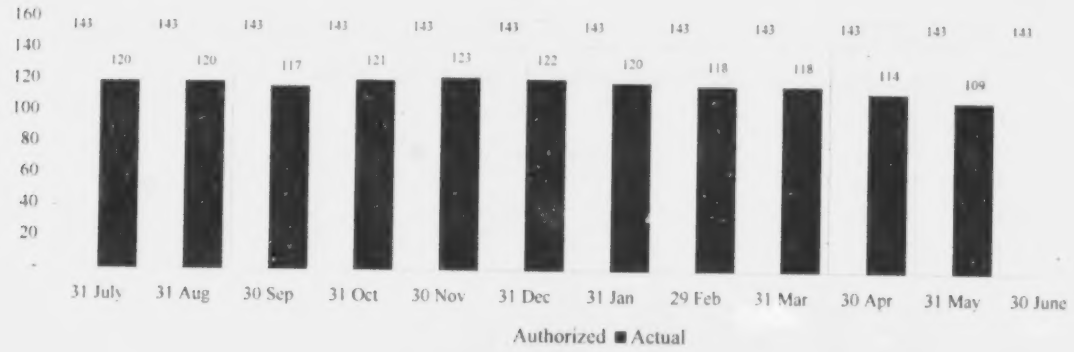
2. Civilian police



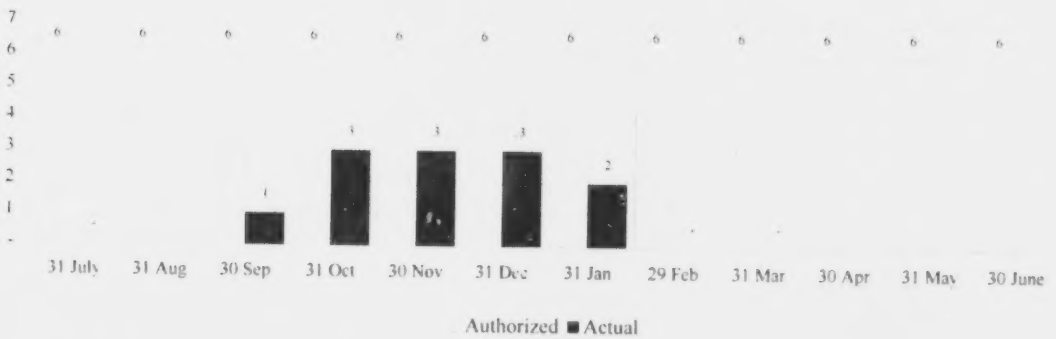
3. International staff



4. Local staff



5. United Nations Volunteers



Annex IV

Apportionment and expenditure for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000